

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 CFR §1.121, Applicant hereby submits marked up versions of the text changed in this amendment.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 26 as shown below.

1. In a computer system having an application with an embedded browser for retrieving information from a Web server, said information including Web pages having tags affecting display of content at the embedded browser, at least some Web pages having hypertext links comprising tags specifying hypertext navigation to other information, an improved method for allowing the server to control the application, the method comprising:

defining a special key tag type, which is not defined in HTML, the special key tag type to be monitored by the application, so that the server may control the application, said special key tag type specifying a tag that includes an embedded tag specifying hypertext navigation and includes auxiliary information;

publishing to the application a Web page having at least one of said special key tags, so that the Web page is displayed at the application;

receiving a user request for invoking a particular hypertext link of the published Web page;

in response to said request, trapping by the application a particular tag that is associated with the hypertext link, before the request is processed by the embedded browser;

determining whether the trapped tag comprises a special key tag;

if the trapped tag does not comprise a special key tag, passing the hypertext link to the embedded browser for processing; and

if the trapped tag comprises a special key tag, allowing the application to process the special key tag in accordance with the auxiliary information, and thereafter passing the embedded tag of the special key tag to the embedded browser for processing.

26. A Web client/Web Server computer system comprising:

a Web client having an application with an embedded browser for retrieving information from a Web server, said information including Web pages having tags affecting display of content at the embedded browser, at least some Web pages having hypertext links comprising tags specifying hypertext navigation to other information;

computer-implemented logic at the Web client for defining a special key tag type, which is not defined in HTML, the special key tag type to be monitored by the application, so that the server may control the application, said special key tag type specifying a tag that includes an embedded tag specifying hypertext navigation and includes auxiliary information;

computer-implemented logic at the Web server for publishing to the application a Web page having at least one of said special key tags, so that the Web page is displayed at the application;

computer-implemented logic at the Web client for trapping a tag associated with a particular hypertext link of the published Web page that has been invoked by a user, before said tag is processed by the embedded browser; and

computer-implemented logic at the Web client for performing a selected one of:

- (i) passing the trapped tag through unchanged to the embedded browser for processing if the trapped tag does not comprise a special key tag; and
- (ii) allowing the application to process the trapped tag in accordance with the auxiliary information if the trapped tag comprises a special key tag, and thereafter passing the embedded tag of the trapped tag to the embedded browser for processing.

Remarks

Status of application

Claims 1-50 are pending in the application prior to entry of this amendment, all of which stand rejected in view of prior art.

Prior art rejections

Claims 1-10, 12-14, 17-35, 37-39 and 42-50 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,122,657, issued to Hoffman, Jr. et al. (hereinafter "Hoffman"). Claims 11, 15-16, 36 and 40-41 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoffman, in view of US Patent No. 6,035,119, issued to Massena et al. (hereinafter "Massena").

Regarding claims 1 and 26, the Examiner wrote that:

Hoffman describes and teaches a system and method for embedding a context-sensitive Web portal in a computer application, filtering tags and contents, comprising:
a computer system having an application with an embedded browser for retrieving information from a Web server, said information including Web pages having tags affecting display of content at the embedded browser, at least some Web pages having hypertext links comprising tags specifying hypertext navigation to other information, an improved method for allowing the server to control the application (col. 3, lines 3-55), the method further comprising

defining a special key tag type to be monitored by the application, so that the server may control the application, said special key tag type specifying a tag that includes an embedded tag specifying hypertext navigation and includes auxiliary information (col. 26, lines 58-67);

publishing to the application a Web page having at least one of said special key tags, so that the Web page is displayed at the application (col. 2, lines 2-6);

receiving a user request for invoking a particular hypertext link of the published Web page;

in response to said request, trapping by the application a particular tag that is associated with the hypertext link, before the request is processed by the embedded browser; determining whether the trapped tag comprises a special key tag (Fig. 3, col. 3, lines 39-54);

if the trapped tag does not comprise a special key tag, passing the hypertext link to the embedded browser for processing (col. 8, lines 51-53); and

if the trapped tag comprises a special key tag, allowing the application to process the special key tag in accordance with the auxiliary information, and thereafter passing the embedded tag of the special key tag to the embedded browser for processing (col. 8, lines 33-50).

Hoffman discloses an Internet computer system in which one or more Web clients communicates with one or more Web servers. A Web client includes a browser, a Filter module and a communication layer. The communication layer enables communication between a Web client and the Web servers. The browser enables a user to browse the various Web servers. The Filter module is interposed between the browser and the communication layer of a Web client. The Filter module traps and processes all communications between the browser and the communication layer. The Filter module may trap a fetch or GET command, for example, and modify the command, delete the command, synthesize new commands or pass through unchanged the existing command. There is no indication in Hoffman that the browser, the Web servers or the communication layer are anything out of the ordinary. There is no indication in Hoffman that the communications between the browser, the Web servers and the communication layer are anything out of the ordinary, e.g. ordinary HTML. Applicant respectfully submits that the entire invention of Hoffman is implemented in the Filter module. The Filter module intercepts ordinary HTML communications between ordinary Web browsers and ordinary Web servers and takes appropriate actions to filter the information displayed at the browser.

There is some commonality between the disclosures of Hoffman and the present patent application. However, there are also a number of substantial differences between the invention claimed in the present application and the disclosure of Hoffman. First, the browser of Hoffman is not an "embedded browser," as required by claims 1 and 26, the only independent claims. Instead, the browser of Hoffman appears to be an ordinary, stand-alone Web browser. Second, the purpose of the claimed invention is not fulfilled by the system of Hoffman. The stated purpose of the claimed invention is to "[allow] the server to control the application." This purpose is specified both in the preamble and the first clause of claim 1 and in the second clause of claim 26. The system of Hoffman does not allow a server to control an application. Instead, Hoffman allows an application, the Filter module, to filter the content that is displayed at a browser, the content being retrieved from a server. The Filter module controls the content that is communicated from the server to the browser and displayed to the user.

Third, the Hoffman disclosure does not involve trapping a "special key tag type," as that phrase is used in the present application. Hoffman does disclose trapping on specific, ordinary, HTML tag types, such as an image tag type. In a general sense, this can be considered

trapping on a “special” tag type. However, the present application does not use the word “special” in this general sense. Also, the HTML tag types of Hoffman are not “key” tag types, as that term is used in the present application. Applicant respectfully submits that a person of skill in the art will understand what is meant by a “special key tag type” within the context of the disclosure of the present application. The specification provides a definition of a “special key tag type” in the section beginning at line 1 of page 22. For example, a special key tag type “would otherwise be an undefined tag for a normal (i.e., HTML-compatible) browser.” (Specification, page 22, lines 4-6). This aspect of the special key tag type has been specifically brought into the claimed invention by the above-specified amendments to claims 1 and 26, for clarification. In contrast, the tag types that are trapped in Hoffman are defined tags for a normal, HTML-compatible browser. There is nothing “special” about them in the sense of the current invention and they are not “key” tag types.

Further, claims 1 and 26 specify that the special key tag types include an “embedded tag specifying hypertext navigation” and “auxiliary information.” There is no indication that the tag types of Hoffman include either an embedded tag or auxiliary information, as that term is used in the present application. Again, the tag types of Hoffman are just ordinary HTML tag types. There is also no indication in Hoffman that the application would “[pass] the embedded tag of the special key tag to the embedded browser for processing.” Hoffman indicates that the Filter module may modify a command, delete a command, synthesize new commands or pass through unchanged the existing command. However, it does not specifically indicate nor suggest parsing out an embedded tag and passing that to the browser.

Applicant respectfully submits that none of these limitations of claims 1 and 26 are disclosed or suggested by Hoffman. Applicant also respectfully submits that Massena does not disclose or suggest any of these limitations. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 26 are patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner.

Claims 2-25 and 27-50 depend from claims 1 and 26, respectively. Accordingly, these claims are patentable for the same reasons. Claims 2-25 and 27-50 are also patentable for various other reasons too. For example, claims 3 and 28 are limited to the embedded browser comprising a child process of the application. There is no indication in Hoffman that the browser is a child process of the Filter Module, or any other application. Also, claims 6-8 and 31-33 have


limitations related to setting the system registry. Applicant has found nothing in Hoffman related to setting the system registry. Applicant respectfully submits that "registering with the Winsock driver" is quite different from setting the system registry. For these reasons and others, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-25 and 27-50 are patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Re-examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (831) 461-5535.

Respectfully submitted,

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